

Message Text

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ACTION HA-05

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FOR HA/CARLIN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SREF, UNHCR
SUBJECT: UNHCR PROGRAM - 1979

REF: GENEVA 9264

1. IN CONVERSATION THIS MORNING UNHCR REPS (HOMANN-HERIMBERG AND DAYAL) PROVIDED FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING UNHCR PROGRAMS FOR 1978 AND 1979 WHICH, THEY REPEATEDLY EMPHASIZED, WAS HIGHLY TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO ADJUSTMENT.

A. AT PRESENT, THE 1978 UNHCR BUDGET, AS PRESENTED IN DOCUMENT A/AC.96/539 AND ADDENDUM 1 STANDS AT \$35 MILLION FOR THE GENERAL PROGRAM AND \$60 MILLION FOR SPECIAL PROGRAMS, LATTER INCLUDING ORIGINAL BUDGET PLUS APPEALS FOR THE HORN OF AFRICA AND BANGLADESH.

B. THEY ANTICIPATE THAT THE UNHCR SECRETARIAT WILL PRESENT FOR APPROVAL BY ITS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN OCTOBER A "NEW AND REVISED" GENERAL PROGRAM OF \$50 MILLION FOR THE 1978 BUDGET, BASED ESSENTIALLY ON INCREASED COSTS FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA AND ZAIRE PROGRAMS
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(MARINELLI HAS DETAILS FOR THIS INCREASE, THEY STATED). IN ADDITION, THEY ANTICIPATE A POSSIBLE, BUT NOT CERTAIN, TRANSFER OF \$40 MILLION FROM THE SPECIAL PROGRAM, BASICALLY FOR INDOCHINA, PART OF THE HORN OF AFRICA PROGRAM, AND BANGLADESH. THIS LATTER ACTION WOULD REDUCE THE SPECIAL PROGRAM BUDGET UNDER THE NEW AND REVISED SCHEDULE TO \$20 MILLION. IN SUM, THE NEW AND REVISED

SCHEDULE WOULD CONSIST, IF THESE PLANS ARE REALIZED, OF \$50 MILLION FOR THE GENERAL PROGRAM PLUS \$40 MILLION TRANSFERRED FROM THE SPECIAL PROGRAM (TOTAL OF \$90 MILLION GENERAL PROGRAM) AND \$20 MILLION FOR THE SPECIAL PROGRAM.

C. OPERATING ON THE BASIS THAT A BROAD DISTINCTION WILL BE MADE BETWEEN THE GENERAL PROGRAM AND THE SPECIAL PROGRAM, AND THAT THIS WILL BE APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NEXT OCTOBER, THE 1979 BUDGET SHOULD BE APPROXIMATELY \$110 MILLION (THOUGH REPS CONSIDERED THIS FIGURE MIGHT BE "CONSERVATIVE"), WITH THE BREAKDOWN ESSENTIALLY THE SAME AS FOR THE REVISED 1978 BUDGET.

2. UNHCR REPS MADE FOLLOWING SPECIFIC CAVEATS IN PRESENTING ABOVE FIGURES:

A. UNHCR SECRETARIAT IS STILL WORKING ON THE REVISED 1978 BUDGET AND ON THE PROGRAM FOR 1979.

B. THE HIGH COMMISSIONER MUST STILL MAKE POLICY DECISIONS AS TO WHICH COMPONENTS FROM THE SPECIAL PROGRAM HE WILL RECOMMEND BE TRANSFERRED TO THE GENERAL FOR BOTH YEARS.

C. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MUST THEN APPROVE OR ALTER THESE RECOMMENDATIONS.
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D. THE DOCUMENTS FOR THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ARE TO BE READY SIX WEEKS PRIOR TO ITS MEETING IN OCTOBER, OR ABOUT MID-AUGUST, CONFORMING WITH STANDARD UN PRACTICE.
VANDEN HEUVEL

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